

## Technical Assistance

Architectural design consultation can be made available through the services of an Industrial Development Authority consultant at no charge to the business owner. Preference will be given to grant requests that implement design recommendations prepared by the Industrial Development Authority's consultant. Landscaping designs that adhere to the existing or planned landscaping for the Route 17 median prepared by the Industrial Development Authority's consultant are available to the business owner at no charge.

## Selection Criteria

A grant application will be reviewed according to the following general criteria:

**17** Aesthetic quality of the project and its design;

**17** Visual prominence and potential impact on attractiveness of the Route 17 Corridor;

**17** Conformance of the project to corridor objectives, such as landscape coordination with median improvements, VDOT entrance closure plans, reduced or ground mounted signage, and improvements in accordance with the Route 17 Cox Study.

## Procedures for Payment

Grants will only be awarded for work performed after the approval of the application. All work must be completed within 12 months. Grants will be awarded to the applicant upon satisfactory completion of the project in accordance with the terms originally approved in the program application. The applicant must submit copies of invoices, an itemized statement of the total cost of the project, and copies of all permits and approvals. Payment to the applicant will be made by the Industrial Development Authority.

## Contact Information

**York County  
Office of Economic Development  
224 Ballard Street  
Yorktown, Virginia 23690**

**Phone: 757-890-3317  
Toll-free: 1-888-296-7582**

**Email: [econdev@yorkcounty.gov](mailto:econdev@yorkcounty.gov)**

**Web: [www.yorkcounty.gov](http://www.yorkcounty.gov)**

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## Rt. 17 Property Improvement Grant Program





## Purpose and Goals

The purpose of this program is to encourage owners of commercial property along the Route 17 corridor to improve those properties thus increasing economic growth in that area of York County.

The goals of the project include:

- 17 Stimulating additional property investments along Route 17;
- 17 Enhancing the appearance and economic potential of participating individual businesses and the Route 17 Corridor as a whole.

## Implementation

The York County Industrial Development Authority and the Route 17 Revitalization Committee will jointly administer the program. Applications will be available at the York County Office of Economic Development, located in Yorktown at 224 Ballard Street. Electronic copies of the Facade Improvement Grant Program applications may also be downloaded from [www.yorkcounty.gov](http://www.yorkcounty.gov).

The applicant must be a property owner or tenant of a business on Route 17. A tenant must have the property owner's signed permission.

Applications must include:

- 17 Written summary of the proposed work;

- 17 Photographs clearly showing existing conditions to be improved upon;
- 17 Design plan for applicable improvement(s);
- 17 Exact samples of any paint or colors to be used;
- 17 Cost estimate.

Program applications will be reviewed and approved by the Route 17 Revitalization Program Review Committee. If approved, completion of the project must occur within 12 months of approval date to obtain grant reimbursement. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis and grants will be administered as long as funds remain available.

The Industrial Development Authority has appropriated \$250,000 for the program in FY2004/05.

## Grants and Qualifying Improvements

The program will provide property owners along the Route 17 corridor with matching grants of up to \$20,000 or 50 percent of the total cost of improvement, whichever is less. Grants are generally available to exterior, facade, and site enhancements and other aesthetic improvements.

## Grants, continued

Allowable improvements include, but are not necessarily limited to:

17 **Facade rehabilitation and renovation** - corrective maintenance, painting, roofing, siding, windows, doors, shutters, canopies, awnings, and other structural changes intended to improve the building's appearance and usefulness.

17 **Sign improvement** - new or renovated signage. Preference will be given to requests that reduce the total amount of signage and to the establishment or renovation of ground mounted monument signs.

17 **General property improvement** - installation of landscape improvements such as retaining walls, steps, and plantings; repair or installation of improved exterior lighting; improvements to or construction of entrances, sidewalks, and parking areas. Preference will be given to requests that implement the landscape plan prepared by the IDA's consultant, and to entrance improvements that comply with VDOT's entrance closure plan.

17 **Demolition** - removal of dilapidated and unsightly structures.

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***For more information and program applications, visit [www.yorkcounty.gov](http://www.yorkcounty.gov).***

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